

U.S. Army Europe Band



Information

The United States Army Europe Band under the command of Major Andrew J. Esch, is stationed at Tompkins Barracks in Schwetzingen, Germany.

The Band was originally activated in 1940. With its partner group, the U.S. Army Europe Soldiers' Chorus, it is the Army's third largest musical organization, the biggest outside of the United States, and the Army's premier musical ambassadors in Europe.

The United States Army Europe Band is an extremely versatile ensemble, always in great demand. Components include the 65-piece concert and marching bands, 35-member ceremonial group, 30 member Soldiers' Chorus, 19-piece "Soldiers of Swing" jazz ensemble, "Night Fire" pop/rock group, "Rhein River Ramblers" dixieland band, jazz combo, brass quintet, and woodwind quintet. Members earn their positions by special audition, and most have performed or taught professionally prior to their military service. A majority of its members hold degrees in music from highly regarded international universities and conservatories.

The U.S. Army Europe Band and Chorus performs more than 200 times each year, and has appeared in over 20 European and Middle Eastern countries from Russia to Lebanon. Whatever the specific requirement, the men and women of the Band and Soldiers' Chorus continue to represent the best of the United States Army.

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Commander's Biography

Major Andrew J. Esch, a native of Fairfax, Virginia, holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Michigan State University and a Master of Arts degree in conducting from George Mason University. He was originally commissioned through ROTC in 1986, a Distinguished Military Graduate.

Major Esch served six years as an Army Quartermaster, first as a platoon leader and Executive Officer in the 11th Transportation Battalion, Ft Story, Virginia, and then as a staff officer in the Casualty Branch of the Army's Personnel Command. In 1992, he left the Army to join The U.S. Air Force Band in Washington, D.C. as a french hornist. After three years as an instrumentalist, Major Esch returned to the U.S. Army, this time as a bandmaster.

Major Esch is a graduate of the Quartermaster Officer Basic Course, the Adjutant General Captain's Career Course, Airborne School, Surface & Air Deployment Planning Courses and the NBC Officer Defense Course.

Previous assignments have included Executive Officer and Ceremonial Officer of The US Army Band at Ft Myer, Virginia, Commander of the Student Company, Army Element, Armed Forces School of Music in Norfolk, Virginia, and Executive Officer and Associate Conductor of The U.S. Continental Army Band, Ft. Monroe, Virginia. Major Esch is currently the Commander and Conductor of The United States Continental Army Band.

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Appearances

- 2003 International Marching Shows:** Bremen
Major Concerts: Schwetzingen; Plankstadt; Gyor; Budapest; Prague; Plzen;
Ostrava; Kornwestheim; Koblenz
Tours: Czech Republic; Hungary
- 2002 International Marching Shows:** Bremen; Hamburg; Hannover; Nice, France;
Birmingham, England
Major Concerts: Bremerhaven; Nice, France; Schwetzingen; Plankstadt;
Ludwigsburg; Karlsruhe; Leimen
Tours: Northern Germany, Denmark, Netherlands, England
- 2001 International Marching Shows:** Bremen; Koblenz; Krakow, Poland
Major Concerts: Frankfurt; Kornwestheim; Schwetzingen; Nürnberg;
Mannheim; Heidelberg; Klaipeda, Lithuania; St. Pölten, Austria
Tours: Eastern Germany, Poland
- 2000 International Marching Shows:** Bremen, Hannover World Expo, Karlsruhe
Major Concerts: Vicenza, Italy; Umbria, Italy; Wilhelmshaven; Prague, Czech
Republic; Budapest, Hungary; Markgroeningen; Wiesloch
Tours: Italy, Czech Republic, Hungary
- 1999 International Marching Shows:** Bremen
Major Concerts: Schwetzingen; Karlsruhe; Baunatal; Europa Park;
Markgroeningen; Russelsheim; Freundenstadt; Pisa, Italy; Montreux,
Switzerland
Tours: Italy, Hungary

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Booking

Military

Commander, USAREUR Band
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Civilian

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